

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and subject matter thereof has been incorporated into claim 1. Claim 1 has also been amended for clarification purposes by reciting that the fluorine-containing resin is cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 32, lines 1-12. Claims 4 and 8 have been amended by inserting a period at the end of each claim. Claim 7 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Claim 18 has been amended to correct a typographical error by replacing the word "clarify" with "clarity."

New claims 24 and 25 are directed to further aspects of the present invention. Support for new claims 24 and 25 can be found in the specification at least at page 32, lines 1-7. New independent claims 26 and 27 are directed to the subject matter of original claims 14 and 15, respectively.

In the Official Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10-15 and 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,340,404 (*Oka et al*). Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Oka et al* in view of "Recent Developments on Optical Films for LCDs," SID Digest 1998 (*Kurata*). Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Oka et al* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,383,620 (*Aoyama et al*). Without addressing the propriety of the above rejections, it is noted that such rejections have been obviated by the above amendments in which subject matter of claim 6 has been incorporated into

claim 1. Claim 6 has not been rejected in the above rejections. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the above rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 6, 7 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Oka et al* in view of *Aoyama et al*, Japanese Patent Document No. 9-288201 (*JP '201*), and U.S. Patent No. 5,759,643 (*Miyashita et al*). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

According to one aspect of the present invention as defined by claim 1, an anti-glare and anti-reflection film is provided which comprises a transparent support having thereon, an anti-glare layer and at least one low refractive index layer superposed in this order, wherein an average mirror reflectance at an incidence of 5 degrees in the wavelength region of 450 nm to 650 nm is 1.2% or less. The low refractive index layer comprises a cured product of a fluorine-containing resin cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation.

Oka et al fails to disclose or suggest each feature of one aspect of the present invention as defined by claim 1. For example, at page 6 of the Official Action, the Patent Office has acknowledged that *Oka et al* fails to disclose or suggest a low refractive index layer comprising a cured product of a fluorine-containing resin cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation, as recited in claim 1.

The Patent Office has relied on *Aoyama et al* for curing the above-described deficiency of *Oka et al*. In this regard, the Patent Office has asserted that *Aoyama et al* discloses an anti-glare treatment consisting of applying a fluorine-containing polymer coating on the surface of a substrate (Official Action at page 6). However, the Patent Office has failed to provide any reason why one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify *Oka et al* by employing the

fluorine-containing polymer coating disclosed by *Aoyama et al.* As such, the combination of *Oka et al* with *Aoyama et al* as suggested in the Official Action is improper for at least this reason.

Moreover, *Oka et al* discloses that in order to avoid concentrating the material for forming the low refractive index layer in the recessed portions of the antiglare layer, the low refractive index layer is formed by a gas phase growth process, for example, vacuum deposition, sputtering, reaction sputtering, ion plating and plasma CVD (col. 13, lines 12-22). However, *Aoyama et al* provides no disclosure or suggestion that the fluorine-containing polymer coating thereof can be formed by the gas phase growth process taught by *Oka et al*, let alone that employing such fluorine-containing polymer coating can avoid the problem of concentration of material in the recessed portions of the antiglare layer discussed by *Oka et al.* For at least this reason, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify *Oka et al* by employing the fluorine-containing polymer coating of *Aoyama et al.*

Furthermore, like *Oka et al*, *Aoyama et al* fails to disclose or suggest a low refractive index layer comprising a cured product of a fluorine-containing resin cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation, as recited in claim 1. In stark contrast with the present invention, *Aoyama et al* merely discloses a fluorine-containing polymer comprising a block which is compatible with an acrylic resin and a block comprising a fluorine-containing elastomer (col. 3, lines 60-64). Simply put, the fluorine-containing polymer disclosed by *Aoyama et al* is not the same as or suggestive of the recited cured product of a fluorine-containing resin cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation. Thus, it is apparent that *Aoyama et al* fails to cure the above-described deficiency of *Oka et al.*

The Patent Office has also relied on *JP '201* for curing the above-described deficiency of *Oka et al.* Specifically, the Patent Office has asserted that *JP '201* discloses fine particles of

fluorocarbon encased in a polymer binder (Official Action at page 6). However, as discussed above, *Oka et al* discloses that the low refractive index layer thereof is formed by a gas phase growth process, for example, vacuum deposition, sputtering, reaction sputtering, ion plating and plasma CVD. In stark contrast, *JP '201* simply has no disclosure or suggestion that the "fine particles of fluorocarbon encased in a polymer binder" can be formed by a gas phase growth process, let alone that using such material can avoid the concentration of the material in the recessed portions of the antiglare layer. For at least this reason, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify *Oka et al* by employing the fine particles of fluorocarbon encased in a polymer binder allegedly disclosed by *JP '201*.

Moreover, like *Oka et al*, *JP '201* does not disclose or suggest a low refractive index layer comprising a cured product of a fluorine-containing resin cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation, as recited in claim 1. Rather, the Patent Office has relied on *JP '201* for disclosing "fine particles of fluorocarbon encased in a polymer binder." Simply put, the fine particles of fluorocarbon encased in a polymer binder are not the same as or suggestive of the claimed cured product of a fluorine-containing resin cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation, as recited in claim 1.

Miyashita et al has been relied upon by the Patent Office for disclosing a layer which uses a surfactant to control the water contact angle and the coefficient of friction (Official Action at page 6). However, like the above applied art, *Miyashita et al* fails to disclose or suggest a low refractive index layer comprising a cured product of a fluorine-containing resin cross-linkable by heat or ionization radiation, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the above reasons, it is apparent that no *prima facie* case of obviousness exists. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above §103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

New independent claims 26 and 27 are directed to the subject matter of original claims 14 and 15, respectively. In this regard, original claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on *Oka et al.* However, *Oka et al* fails to disclose or suggest a low refractive index layer containing inorganic fine particles having an average particle size from 0.001 μm to 0.1 μm , as recited in claim 26. The Official Action does not provide any explanation of how *Oka et al* discloses or suggests such feature.

With respect to claim 27 (and claim 15), it is noted that original claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on *Oka et al.* In this regard, it appears that the Patent Office has taken Official Notice that the recited silicon oxide particles are functionally equivalent alternatives to the zinc oxide particles disclosed by *Oka et al.* Applicants respectfully but strenuously traverse the Patent Office's assertion. The Patent Office has not provided any evidence or reasoning in support of the assertion that silicon oxide particles and zinc oxide particles are interchangeable when present in a low refractive index layer. Quite to the contrary, it is clear that silicon oxide particles and zinc oxide particles are in fact different materials having different properties. In accordance with M.P.E.P. §2144.03(c), Applicants respectfully request the Patent Office to provide documentary evidence in support of its assertion, or withdraw the rejection with respect to claims 15 and 27.

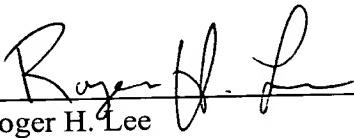
From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 09/818,711
Attorney's Docket No. 012777-040

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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